

# BULLETIN

## CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

130 East Twenty-second Street, New York City

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DECEMBER 15, 1924

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*"Lord, give to men who are old and rougher  
The things that little children suffer,  
And let keep bright and undefiled  
The young years of the little child."*—JOHN MASEFIELD.

*"Childhood is for us paradise lost; we grown-ups can  
never again come to a complete and absolute understanding  
of the special nature and construction of the child-soul."*—  
WILLIAM STERN.

### EASTERN REGIONAL CHILD WELFARE CONFERENCE

EAST HALL, RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION BUILDING  
130 E. 22d Street, New York City  
January 2 and 3, 1925

#### TENTATIVE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, January 2—10.30—12.30 P. M.

10.30.—A General Survey of the Activities of the Child Welfare League of America.

11.30.—The Relationship of Child Guidance Clinics to Other Child-caring Agencies.

1. From the Clinic's Point of View.
2. From the Agency's Point of View.

3.00—5.00 P. M.—Round Table Conferences.

#### Subjects:

1. With Good Foster Home Care Available, Both Boarding and Free, and Good Institutional Care, What Children Should Go to Institutions?
2. Minimum Standards of Protective Work in the Community.
3. Personnel and Working Conditions in Institutions.
4. Financial Problems of Child Welfare Agencies.
5. How Can We Best Use Our Case Records to Discover General Principles of Treatment and Prevention?
6. The Use of Volunteers.
7. What Services Are Group Movements Now Giving to Child Welfare, and How Can Child Welfare Agencies Interest and Use Organized Groups to Meet Additional Needs?

8. Of Children Who Should Be Cared for in Foster Family Homes, How Do We Decide Which We Should Board and Which We Should Place Free?
9. What is Our Experience with the Difficulties of Finding Free and Boarding Homes, and How Do We Meet Them?

7.00—9.30 P. M.—Dinner Conference.

Address.

SATURDAY, January 3.

9.30 A. M.—To What Extent is Compromise Hurting Child Welfare Work?

10.15 A. M.—Five Round Table Discussions of Above. Detailed programs will be sent as soon as ready upon application.

#### ADDITIONAL MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The last BULLETIN gave a résumé of some of the important things done at the Executive Committee meeting of the League, held in Chicago on October 9 and 10. The following additional information is given as a supplement:

The Chairmen of the League's Standing Committees are as follows:

Membership, J. Prentice Murphy.  
Standards of Membership, Albert H. Stoneman.  
Publications and Research, Miss Georgia G. Ralph.  
Regional Conferences, Alfred F. Whitman.  
Institutional Care of Children, Miss Elsa Ueland.  
Finance, Cheney C. Jones.

A Joint Committee was appointed for the purpose of working out a joint program at the time of the Denver National Conference with the National Children's Home and Welfare Association.

It was voted that the League continue its international service.

It was voted that under proper circumstances permanent Child Welfare Commissions might be considered eligible for admission to membership in the League.

A new classification of members was adopted, which is as follows:

Class A.—Agencies placing out children but not undertaking formal protective work.

- Class B.—Protective agencies not placing out children.
- Class C.—Agencies equipped to undertake protective and placing-out work.
- Class D.—Children's institutions (Receiving Homes of agencies in classes A, B, and C not included).
- Class E.—Public departments, supervisory, standardizing and educational in character, but not assuming direct responsibility for protection and care of children.
- Class F.—Miscellaneous child welfare agencies not falling under other classes.

The former distinction between full, associate, and institutional disappears; all classes have all privileges as far as they apply to their individual organizations.

The holding of a Western Regional Child Welfare Conference in Omaha, Nebraska, during the winter or spring was approved.

The membership fee of the League was raised from ten to twenty-five dollars a year. In case an organization felt that it could not for exceptional reasons pay the increased fee, opportunity for accepting a smaller fee or remitting it was left with the Membership Committee.

A special committee to frame a policy that might be recommended to the League, with reference to sick leaves and vacations, was authorized.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Child Welfare League of America has received the formal endorsement of the National Information Bureau, Inc.

Bulletin No. 7, "What Dependent Children Need," is now available at the reduced price of twenty-five cents a copy.

#### COMMUNITY AND CASE WORK

The interesting Annual Report of the American Association for the Organizing of Family Social Work discusses the general relation of case work agencies to the community they serve and the non-professional societies found there. Does not the following apply to children's agencies?

"Plainly, too, the larger societies as well as the smaller are confronted with the problem as to just what limits they must set to their work on the basis of financial possibilities. This applies to chest and non-chest cities alike, though in the case of some of the former it is evident that this problem is complicated with the question as to whether the chest is genuinely progressive or standing in the way of progress. Both kinds exist. But, passing beyond situations so complicated, there are plainly situations in which possible financial support of the community-wide family society

will only slowly increase from year to year with increasing demands.

"Naturally, the first mission of a family social work society is to do an increasingly good and intensive case work job. At the end of each five-year period the number of families being planned for by individual workers should decrease or at least not increase beyond certain limits which will not be set down here, but will be tentatively offered in the next year or two. Beyond the possibilities of increased resources, what is to be done? There must be transfers of responsibility. But to whom? There comes to the front again the increasing need of campaigning for the social development of public agencies and for the service of the case work agencies of standing in helping to advance (as friends and from the inside) all the semi-professional and amateur organizations already existing. By 'advance' we mean to help, through various means, in the slow improvement of the case work or alleged case work being done. The methods by which this must be accomplished are manifold and cannot be discussed here. We have spoken of case work done by amateur or semi-professional organizations: we would go further and say 'all the case work being done in a community at any given time.' After all, only a percentage of family social case work can be done by one professional agency or by a number of them. Just as the great mass of small bodily ills is treated amateurishly by patients and their relatives and friends, so must a great mass of minor family problems be dealt with by the sufferers and all sorts of non-professional people and organizations. Just as the public health group has assisted in making the amateur and semi-professional more directly useful and less ignorantly harmful in connection with bodily ills (with particular emphasis as to when the professional *must* be consulted), so must family case workers accept as a part of their day-to-day program direct educational and advisory service to the amateur and semi-professional in their field, to a far greater extent than has hitherto been the practice."

#### TRAINING FOR COTTAGE MOTHERS

Addressing a meeting of the North Carolina Orphan Association, Joseph B. Johnston, General Manager of the Presbyterian Orphans' Home, Barium Springs, N. C., told of the results of a four months' training course for cottage mothers which has just been completed at Barium Springs.

A résumé of Mr. Johnston's address in the November issue of "Public Welfare Progress" (published by the North Carolina State Board of Charities and Public Welfare) reports that—

"the student gets a splendid foundation of theory and enough practice to find out if she is fitted for the work or not. It is possible to tell if the chances are in favor of her making this her life work. . . . The course costs her nothing, and the work she does in training is enough to defray the expense of her board.

"As to the effect on the corps of workers already in the institution, at first mention the plan did not seem to strike a popular note, but after deciding on the plan

the regular matrons took to it with enthusiasm and have all taken the first course with the students, making a class of over thirty. From the first it made a very marked difference in the way the workers looked on their own work. It added a dignity not observed before. It lifted the work of the matron from the drudgery of a job to the dignity and honor of a profession."

In a communication from Mr. Johnston we are told that he has noticed definite improvement in the work of the institution and discontinuance of some methods that were hurtful, and that these changes can be traced to instructions which cottage mothers received in the training course lectures.

Our Department of Institutional Care has kept in close touch with the organization and development of this formal attempt to improve the status and equipment of institutional personnel. In the next issue of our BULLETIN there will be a description of the scope and detail of the curriculum which has been worked out at Barium Springs.—H. W. H.

Plato says, "Dare to be truthful to your child. Nature is not shameful, since nature begot him."

#### MEXICAN MIGRATION

In the years from 1915 to 1924 the number of Mexicans admitted to the United States has risen from 10,993 to 87,648. Most are in the Southwest, but there are colonies in some of the Middle West industrial sections. The lure of wages has drawn them.

We know that they have been transportation and family welfare problems in some of the latter places, but as yet we have had no case of a Mexican child referred to us for international service. In this country their children have appeared in reports of the Child Labor Committee on beet field labor, and last year 18,744 were registered in the Los Angeles schools.

In South America the patriarchal family group itself provides for unfortunate children of families in the group. It would seem that this same sense of responsibility must be operating under new conditions in the United States.—C. W. A.

#### AN IMMENSE STEWARDSHIP

During 1924 community chests in 168 cities raised \$48,550,217. Chests yet to report will bring this figure to \$50,000,000. In addition there are the benefactions that do not appear in such reports over the whole country.

The figures themselves tell why genuine business methods are required in social work—how else would one handle \$50,000,000 efficiently?—and also why the

success of the chests is making for their establishment in more and more communities.

But who knows the results achieved by this immense expenditure, or even how to size up what the results are, or (still more primary) what results to aim for?

The New York State Charities Aid Association recently spent a goodly sum and much effort to check up the results of its own work (see League Bulletin for July, 1924). The League staff is spending much time on the problem with member and other agencies and communities. Our members will soon be asked to consider and criticize a method of reporting finances and work designed to allow the two to interpret each other.

Americans are generous, but they ask to be "shown." Ought not the social worker to be able to "show" them? Fifty millions of dollars!—C. W. A.

#### CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS GIVE IMPETUS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CHILDREN'S BUREAU

The standards of church institutions for children receive specific and critically constructive attention in a brief report just published by the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Department of Christian Social Service.

In it Miss Marian Barney, Director of the Children's Bureau, Louisville, Kentucky, reports the unusual co-operation between two Protestant Episcopal Children's institutions, following a study made by Miss Mildred P. Carpenter, of the National Council. The immediate outcome of the co-ordination developed by these institutions is an improved service for dependent and neglected children in Louisville. The community viewpoint adopted by the Episcopal Church in this situation was directly responsible for the foundation of the Children's Bureau, which is distinctly a community organization concerned with standards of child care.

Any institution whose first aim is to serve a community by serving the community's dependent and neglected children will profit by reading Miss Barney's report. It may be obtained from the National Council, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York City, by asking for Leaflet B, Fourth National Social Service Conference Proceedings. The price is five cents.—H. W. H.

#### "THE INTERPRETER"

Foreign-born people in the United States think, write and say a great many things which the majority of Americans are quite ignorant of. The Foreign Language Information Service, 119 W. 41st Street, New York City, issues a monthly bulletin called "The Interpreter," and from time to time special mimeographed releases dealing with special topics relating to the lives

and interests of foreign-born peoples in America. The publications of the bulletins are most interestingly written and also revealing in contents.

All of the League members who are called upon to perform services for foreign-born groups in the United States will receive many benefits through utilizing the Information Service. At a cost of \$10.00 a year this information is made available, as well as special advice and information on any subject pertaining to the foreign-born group which may arise.

Specimen copies of these publications may be secured by addressing the New York office of "The Interpreter."

#### A PRIZE CONTEST

A prize contest for a good one-act play giving a social message has been made possible by the donation of two prizes of \$350 and \$150 each by Joseph Lee of Boston. The prizes are to be awarded by judges chosen by the Committee on Publicity Methods in Social Work of the Russell Sage Foundation. The winning plays will be produced under the auspices of this Committee in connection with the National Conference of Social Work in Denver, 1925. The judges of the contest are Jane Addams, Winchell Smith, Zona Gale, Samuel A. Eliot, Jr., and Julia Lathrop. Additional details may be obtained from the Committee.

#### INTAKE SERVICE FOR INSTITUTIONS

The need for intake study and social examination for institutions is well illustrated by the following quotation from the "Orphans' Friend" of November, 1924, published by St. Paul's Orphans' Home (Reformed Church), Greenville, Pa.:

"During the past month there have been quite a few applicants for admission to the Home. One man came with three boys, thinking that all he had to do was to bring them to the Home. Their mother had deserted the boys. A woman came with four children expecting to leave them at the Home. She said their father had left them. Several other applications came through the mail. In every case either the father or the mother had deserted the children."

**The various publications from which quotations are made are generally on file in the League's office and may be procured for fuller study.**

#### CONFERENCE OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF CHILD-CARING INSTITUTIONS

On December 9th a meeting of the heads of the various orphanages and homes in Wisconsin, called by the Juvenile Department of the Wisconsin State Board of Control, was held at Madison.

The subjects discussed covered a wide range of insti-

tutional problems, with particular emphasis on the necessity for careful physical examinations, correction of defects, keeping of health records, and providing proper diet.

It was pointed out that unless we know a child's physical condition and his bodily needs and limitations we are not in a position to deal with him intelligently. That he "is never sick" or "never misses a meal" does not excuse us from our responsibility in this regard.

Reference was made to the conclusion of Dr. Amy Daniels of the University of Iowa regarding the amounts and varieties of food to be given a growing child daily. After much experimentation and research she holds that the following list represents the essentials, and Dr. Emerson of Boston supports her opinion:

1 quart of whole milk
1 egg
2 vegetables in addition to potatoes
1 fresh fruit
Cereals and breads
Dairy butter three times a day

The importance of social case work and records occupied the remainder of the day's program.

The "by-products" of meetings of this sort are always interesting. One superintendent jokingly, but with an undercurrent of seriousness, asked the representative of the Child Welfare League whether she was not trying to promote the business of physicians after she had waxed fairly eloquent on the subject of health examinations.

Another gentleman had a friendly argument with the dietitian who was present. White sugar, he maintained, was the cause of many ills, and why should children have it? Vinegar, even in small quantities, he was sure caused acidosis. The dietitian smilingly replied that white sugar was needed for energy and that it was not the outstanding factor in diabetes. The virtuous prune, she said, was much more a factor in acidosis than the vinegar a person uses under ordinary circumstances. "You have your chemistry mixed," she remarked. And from this there was no appeal, chemistry, unlike social procedure, being an exact science. We wished that conclusions on the proper care of unfortunate children might be so surely proven right or wrong.—M. I. A.

#### CHILD WELFARE NEWS

In the annual report of one of the largest church children's institutions in the South, Thornwell Orphanage, Clinton, S. C., the subject of Social Life receives the following attention:

"We are pleased to report that the children seem happy in their life and seek to develop the social graces. The touch of so many of our older boys and girls with college reacts favorably upon the life of our pupils. Our

older girls are privileged to receive callers on Saturday afternoons. They are allowed to have socials at intervals and are permitted to accept invitations to social gatherings, banquets, etc., in town and college circles."

In great part as a result of the work of the Serbian Child Welfare Commission, of which Dr. R. R. Reeder, one of our Executive Committee members, was Director, there is a Division of Child Welfare in the Yugoslavia Department of Social Policies. The original purpose of this Division was to relieve suffering among children caused by the World War. In addition to placing children in institutions or families and providing all kinds of needed relief, the Division studies child welfare problems from the legal point of view. It prepared recently a children's code inspired by the most advanced ideas. The Division is also co-operating with the departments of hygiene and public instruction.

A recent communication from Japan to the United States Department of State announces the ratification by Japan of the draft convention prohibiting the employment on vessels of children under 14 years of age, adopted by the International Labor Conference held in Genoa in 1920, and the convention providing for compulsory medical examination of minors under 18 years of age employed on vessels, adopted in Geneva in 1921.

The United States Chamber of Commerce asks business organizations the following questions, which, as pointed out in "Better Times," may be profitably used in checking up the administration of a children's institution:

"Do you know what you save annually by discounting bills?

"Do you keep a 'purchase account' that shows total of all goods bought?

"Do you know what it costs to buy goods?

"Do you know what you owe?

"How often do you take stock of supplies?

"Do you make allowances for depreciation of equipment?

"Into how many separate accounts are your expenses divided?

"How often do you make up a profit and loss account?

"If a fire took place, could you, from your books, give a complete statement of all accounts?"

To these we add:

In case of a sudden removal of the executive, would the social record of each child be on paper?

In case of fire would your social and financial records be reasonably free from destruction?

We heard only yesterday from two trustees that the children's institution over which they were helping to preside seemed to take better care of its blooded stock than of some of the children committed to it.

In an address at the National Country Life Conference in St. Louis, Alma L. Binzel, speaking of the problems involved in caring for children on farms, goes back to the year 1563 in search of an authority:

"Roger Ascham, the scholarly schoolmaster of England's royalty, expressed it thus: 'And it is a pity that commonly, more care is had, yea and that among very wise men, to find out rather a cunning man for their horse, than a cunning man for their children. . . . To the one they will gladly give a stipend of 200 crowns by the year and are lothe to offer the other 200 shillings. God that sitteth in heaven laugheth them to scorn, and rewardeth their liberality as it should; for he suffereth these men to have tame and well-ordered horses but wild and unfortunate children; and therefore in the end they find more pleasure in their horse than comfort in their children.'

"Since a crown is worth \$1.22 and a shilling twenty-four cents, the trainer of England's horses received five times as much as the teacher of her children!"

The American Sociological Society will hold its 19th Annual Meeting in Chicago December, 29-31. Most of the meetings will be held at the Auditorium Hotel, Michigan Avenue. The general topic is, "The Trend of Our Civilization." The following subjects to be discussed may be of interest to our members:

Monday, December 29.—"Personality Studies from Life History Documents."

"A Measure of Rural Migration and Other Sources of Urban Increase."

"Some Tendencies and Aspects of the Race Problem."

"A Dependency Index for Minneapolis."

Tuesday, December 30.—"The Need for Improved Child Welfare Statistics."

"Next Steps in Rural Social Research."

Wednesday, December 31.—"Race Crossing in the Light of Modern Genetics."

"Human Hybrids as Illustrated by the Mulatto."

The Junior Leagues in many cities are helpful in child welfare work. In New York they have been of great service in connection with the Department of Boarding Homes of the Children's Aid Society. At one point the Junior League girls came forward and took the responsibility of finding a unit of homes, namely, a group readily accessible to one another, and therefore more easily supervised, and of meeting the deficit between what the children's relatives were able to pay and the sum, usually about six dollars a week, guaranteed to foster parents. Are other agencies using the Junior League to advantage?

The University of Wisconsin has given great impetus to the campaign for increasing the consumption of milk throughout the State. That it has put imagination into

its task is evidenced by the names suggested in a College of Agriculture bulletin for the use of the "resourceful soda fountain man." If the advice given to him is followed, he can serve one a Holstein Highball, a Jersey Julep, an Ayrshire Ale or a Guernsey Flip. Perhaps giving the necessary glass of milk an attractive name might be one way in which child-caring institutions could deal with the problem of the child who thinks he doesn't like milk.

#### THE NEW RÉGIMÉ AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S TRAINING SCHOOL, CINCINNATI

At the 1924 National Conference of Catholic Charities held in Des Moines, a paper written by Mother M. Patricia, Superintendent of Mount St. Mary's Training School (Convent of the Good Shepherd) of Cincinnati, was read by the social worker connected with the School. This paper is of particular interest to us as we knew the institution in the days when Mother Patricia had been superintendent but a short time and had not had an opportunity to put new policies into effect. Some of the changes which have taken place are indicated in the following excerpts:

"The individual who comes most frequently under the care of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd is the adolescent girl in her teens. Many of these have only shown wayward tendencies and need restraining care and special watchfulness to get them safely over the turbulent tide so fraught with emotions and instincts all new and strange to the girl herself and with which she has been unable to cope in the environment which surrounded her. . . .

"The picture presented is of the average girl, a creature of strong, instinctive and emotional traits, with the balance wheel of intelligence registering relatively low. Whether the mental deficiency is due to heredity, environment or other causes, should be a matter for the social investigator to ascertain and such information is to be presented when admission is sought as it will greatly help the Sisters in assigning the girl to the various classes in the school. Sad to say, only too often the knowledge of the social background is lacking and report of the immediate delinquency which brought her to the institution is the only information presented. . . .

"Time was when the term Good Shepherd Home was almost synonymous with laundry work—but with the change in type of subject came the change of vocational activities and today the Commercial Laundry has given way to Millinery, Dressmaking, and better equipped schoolrooms and the old-time mangle and packing-room are now gay with the newest style of hats and frocks, and resound with the merry clicks of the typewriter.

"That there is a close bond of union between the instincts and the appreciation of music cannot be denied. Every primitive race had its own form of music which permeated every phase of its history. It is music's appeal to the emotional element in us that

gives it its great power over us and attraction for us. It is surprising to learn the great amount of musical talent latent in these wayward girls and how phenomenal is its expression under favorable circumstances. . . .

"Recreational facilities, such as roller skating, baseball, swings, trapeze and other devices, well placed in a park with winding walks, flowers and shrubbery and a bubbling fountain where goldfish add their glint of color—all these awaken and foster an appreciation of the good and beautiful in life, provide an outlet for their exuberant spirits, and bring the healthful glow to cheeks that may have known too often the counterfeit flame of cheap rouge."—M. I. A.

#### NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Dr. A. T. Jamison, Superintendent of the Connie Maxwell Orphanage, Greenwood, South Carolina, sends us the following items:

"The Social Worker who joined the official staff of Connie Maxwell Orphanage a few months ago has already abundantly illustrated the need for such an officer. Her active investigation of applicants has brought out facts in many cases that were surprising. She has considerably reduced the population at the institution by making an analysis of the population and discovering many drones.

"Another institution in South Carolina has before its trustees the consideration of employment of a social worker. It is thought that the action will be favorable upon the question when it is presented for decision.

"Active propaganda has been set on foot in South Carolina demanding a law for providing Mothers' Aid by the State. The Legislature is now the objective of argument and appeal from our social workers and the women's clubs of the State. We have a strong hope that South Carolina will soon provide for aid to widowed mothers."

The Children's Aid Society of St. Louis recently entertained about seventy-five of its foster mothers at the Municipal Community Centre. Mr. Charles F. Miner, Executive Secretary of the Social Hygiene Association, spoke on "Some Things that Mothers and Foster Mothers Ought to Know." Dr. William Nelson, of the Psychiatric Clinic, made a short talk on the "Reasons Why Children are Referred to the Child Guidance Clinic." Miss Louise Pye, new Director of the Department of Mothers and Babies, wearing an Austrian peasant costume, sang folk songs and related some of her experiences with children during her service with the Red Cross in Austria.

Refreshments were served by members of the Children's Aid Board. These meetings, which are held from time to time, prove most helpful in bringing about a spirit of co-operation and understanding with the foster

mothers, who are so important a part of the organization.

The Children's Bureau of Louisville, Kentucky, has just completed nine months' work. During this time it has had applications in behalf of 192 children, 18 of whom have been accepted for foster home care. In addition it has had 51 children in two orphanages, 44 of whom have been studied and for whom some supervision has been assumed, and in several instances definite plans of treatment made.

Sixty-six children are under supervision. Board has been paid for 25: 22 in foster homes and 3 in their own homes. Free care has been given 31 children: 9 in foster homes, 14 in the homes of their parents, 4 in the homes of relatives, and 4 temporary institutional care (not included in the 51). Two were supervised in wage homes and 8 have had supervision only, in the two institutions for which the Bureau is the investigating and supervising agency.

Twenty of the one hundred foster home applications have been approved. It is realized that much of the success of the foster home work is due to the splendid type of foster mother whom the Bureau has been able to secure, and to her co-operation, which is unusual considering the newness of the work.

The greatest need at present is medical supervision. It is hoped that one of the results of the recent survey made by the Health and Hospital Committee of the Community Chest will be the establishment of some form of a Well Clinic. It is not all smooth sailing, but on the whole the results have been encouraging and have justified the effort.

The Executive Secretary of the Bureau hopes that at some time and in some way training schools for social work will introduce into their curricula courses in training for work in child-caring institutions. It is a field worth cultivating and should attract the highest type of worker.

#### NURSERY EQUIPMENT

Nursery schools and day nurseries have taken the lead in providing equipment which conforms to the size and needs of runabouts and older pre-school children. As a result the children have much more freedom of movement and can be taught to do many more things for themselves. In an environment designed for them, the number of "don'ts" can be reduced to a minimum and participation in the daily round of activities greatly increased.

Too often we rhapsodize over the charming appearance of nursery equipment, but fail to see the opportunities for training which lie back of it, and thus are

HAVE you read all of the League's publications? We can supply the following in such numbers as are desired:

**BULLETIN No. 6.**—The Need for Psychological Interpretation in the Placement of Dependent Children, by Jessie Taft, Ph.D.

Price, Fifteen Cents

**BULLETIN No. 7.**—What Dependent Children Need. Edited by C. V. Williams.

Price, Twenty-five Cents

**BULLETIN No. 9.**—Condensed Report of a Survey of Juvenile Delinquency in Rochester, New York, by Henry W. Thurston.

Price, Twenty-five Cents

**BULLETIN No. 11.**—The Problem of the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, by Ruth I. Workum.

Price, Fifteen Cents

**CASE STUDIES, CASE No. 1.** Edited by Miss Georgia G. Ralph.

Price, Thirty Cents

Twenty-five or more copies, Twenty-five Cents each

not moved to substitute furnishings of "little bear" size for those of the "big bear" type. If it is borne in mind that habits of order, respect for the property of others, self-reliance and judgment are some of the results which come from surrounding small children with the kind of physical environment suited to their needs, many of our child-caring institutions will not consider either a large bare room or a room equipped with the cast-off chairs and tables from other departments as suitable for nursery purposes.—M. I. A.

#### ENCLOSURES

(Sent to members of League only)

The enclosures for this month are as follows:

1. Reprint entitled "Of What Value Are These Services to Mankind," by Mr. J. Prentice Murphy.
2. Leaflet of the Idaho Children's Home Finding and Aid Society, entitled "What of Idaho's Children?"
3. Leaflets of the St. Louis Children's Aid Society.

#### CHANGES FOR DIRECTORY

**MARYLAND.**—Henry Watson Children's Aid Society and Maryland Children's Aid Society, Snow Building, Baltimore; Mr. Paul T. Beisser, General Secretary, beginning January 1, 1925.

## INTER-CITY CONFERENCE ON ILLEGITIMACY BULLETIN

*President: MISS KATHARINE P. HEWINS, Boston.*

*Vice-President: ALBERT H. STONEMAN, Lansing, Mich.*

*Secretary and Treasurer: MRS. L. FREDERIC PEASE, New York.*

### AT THE STATE CONFERENCE

The round table discussion on the bills introduced at Albany by the State Commission for Examining Laws relating to Child Welfare, held at Syracuse November 13th, brought out an amazingly good audience at the unpromising hour of 8.30 in the morning. Mr. George H. Hall, Chairman, explained the purpose of the bills and analyzed the new features they presented. The interest of the audience centered in the proposed state supervision of private institutions and in the bill relating to children born out of wedlock. Stress was laid on the need for a wider education of the public and of members of the legislation before the measures are again introduced.

The meeting was attended by representatives of organizations interested in child welfare and illegitimacy and at its close the names and addresses of those present were taken and copies of the bills forwarded at request for circulation and study.

### NEWS FROM LOCAL CONFERENCES

The Children's Division of the Buffalo Council of Social Agencies, just organized, has decided to appoint a standing Committee on Illegitimacy. The Rev. William Meegan, Director of Catholic Charities, is chairman, and the Committee will be a local unit of the Inter-City Conference on Illegitimacy. The first subject that the Group wishes to undertake is the formulation of minimum standards for the agencies dealing with the unmarried mother and illegitimate child. The BULLETIN will welcome any suggestions for such a study for the use of this new unit.

In a recent letter to the BULLETIN Mr. William Hodson, Director Department of Social Legislation, Russell Sage Foundation, writes:

"I am wondering to what extent the social workers of the country, particularly those who have to deal with the problem of illegitimacy, have given attention to the measure drafted by the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in connection with the establishment of the paternity of children born out of wedlock. This bill is the outgrowth of a movement started by the Federal Children's Bureau under Miss Lathrop some years ago. Many of our members will recall the conference called by the Children's Bureau to establish standards in this field, and the fact that a special committee was appointed by the Children's Bureau to summarize the results of the conference and to prepare a memorandum on the whole subject. As a result of this beginning, the whole matter was eventually submitted to the Com-

missioners on Uniform State Laws and the bill above referred to was prepared.

"The Uniform Act has already been adopted in two or three states, North Dakota among others, and will no doubt be considered from time to time by state legislatures in various parts of the country. Its provisions ought to receive the careful scrutiny of social workers and they should decide whether it is a satisfactory piece of legislation when judged from the standpoint of actual case work experience. We ought to promote study and discussion of the bill on every possible occasion."

### UNMARRIED MOTHERS OF DAYTON, OHIO

This problem of unmarried mothers, although they are a group by themselves, enters also into the problems of dependency, mental deficiency and delinquency, as well as public health. It is just as important for the unmarried pregnant woman as for the married to have proper physical care, and if those who will inevitably require attention from the community are not put in touch with a social agency as early as possible, the opportunity for much constructive work is lost. Satisfactory work is not done with these cases because too many agencies merely touch the problem at various angles, no one of them having entire responsibility for the case. In Dayton the following agencies do something in this field:

Agency	Cases During Year
Door of Hope	37
Miami Valley Hospital	50
Humane Society—	
Prosecutions	25
Adoptions	12
Boarding Homes	15
Visiting Nurses	24
Probation Officer	18
Policewomen, in month of April, 1924	11
Probate Court	22

The total of these cases would not, of course, represent the whole number of children born out of wedlock, as some of these may have been handled by from one to four or five agencies.

The Visiting Nurses' Association cares for about twenty-four or more unmarried mothers in their homes each year. The majority of these are colored. The probation officer in charge of colored children had seven of these cases during 1923, but in the first five months of 1924 the number jumped to twenty. This she attributes to the very bad housing situation, working mothers, and ignorance. It is her opinion that the most successful results, both to the girl and the community, are secured if she is sent away. Of these twenty children since the first of the year, five were adopted, two were placed in boarding homes, and twelve were kept by their mothers.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES (INTER-CITY CONFERENCE ON ILLEGITIMACY)

Individual dues, \$1.00; Group dues, \$5.00, payable to the Treasurer, 1133 Broadway, New York.

